



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/995,482	11/28/2001	Michael J. McKay	Leichtag001C	3333

7590 11/12/2004

THE MATTHEWS FIRM
Suite 1800
1900 West Loop South
Houston, TX 77027

EXAMINER

JONES, SCOTT E

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3713

DATE MAILED: 11/12/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Interview Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/995,482	MCKAY ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Scott E. Jones	3713	

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

- (1) Scott E. Jones. (3) _____
 (2) Taras P. Bemko. (4) _____

Date of Interview: 09 November 2004.

Type: a) ☒ Telephonic b) ☐ Video Conference
 c) ☐ Personal [copy given to: 1) ☐ applicant 2) ☐ applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d) ☐ Yes e) ☒ No.
 If Yes, brief description: _____.

Claim(s) discussed: 17 and 19-21.

Identification of prior art discussed: Carrera et al. (U.S. 4,273,337), Freda, III (U.S. 5,660,389), and Ho et al. (U.S. 6,120,300).


Agreement with respect to the claims f) ☐ was reached. g) ☒ was not reached. h) ☐ N/A.

Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: See Continuation Sheet.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN ONE MONTH FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE, OR THE MAILING DATE OF THIS INTERVIEW SUMMARY FORM, WHICHEVER IS LATER, TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.



 Examiner's signature, if required

Summary of Record of Interview Requirements

Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP), Section 713.04, Substance of Interview Must be Made of Record

A complete written statement as to the substance of any face-to-face, video conference, or telephone interview with regard to an application must be made of record in the application whether or not an agreement with the examiner was reached at the interview.

Title 37 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 1.133 Interviews

Paragraph (b)

In every instance where reconsideration is requested in view of an interview with an examiner, a complete written statement of the reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action must be filed by the applicant. An interview does not remove the necessity for reply to Office action as specified in §§ 1.111, 1.135. (35 U.S.C. 132)

37 CFR §1.2 Business to be transacted in writing.

All business with the Patent or Trademark Office should be transacted in writing. The personal attendance of applicants or their attorneys or agents at the Patent and Trademark Office is unnecessary. The action of the Patent and Trademark Office will be based exclusively on the written record in the Office. No attention will be paid to any alleged oral promise, stipulation, or understanding in relation to which there is disagreement or doubt.

The action of the Patent and Trademark Office cannot be based exclusively on the written record in the Office if that record is itself incomplete through the failure to record the substance of interviews.

It is the responsibility of the applicant or the attorney or agent to make the substance of an interview of record in the application file, unless the examiner indicates he or she will do so. It is the examiner's responsibility to see that such a record is made and to correct material inaccuracies which bear directly on the question of patentability.

Examiners must complete an Interview Summary Form for each interview held where a matter of substance has been discussed during the interview by checking the appropriate boxes and filling in the blanks. Discussions regarding only procedural matters, directed solely to restriction requirements for which interview recordation is otherwise provided for in Section 812.01 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, or pointing out typographical errors or unreadable script in Office actions or the like, are excluded from the interview recordation procedures below. Where the substance of an interview is completely recorded in an Examiners Amendment, no separate Interview Summary Record is required.

The Interview Summary Form shall be given an appropriate Paper No., placed in the right hand portion of the file, and listed on the "Contents" section of the file wrapper. In a personal interview, a duplicate of the Form is given to the applicant (or attorney or agent) at the conclusion of the interview. In the case of a telephone or video-conference interview, the copy is mailed to the applicant's correspondence address either with or prior to the next official communication. If additional correspondence from the examiner is not likely before an allowance or if other circumstances dictate, the Form should be mailed promptly after the interview rather than with the next official communication.

The Form provides for recordation of the following information:

- Application Number (Series Code and Serial Number)
- Name of applicant
- Name of examiner
- Date of interview
- Type of interview (telephonic, video-conference, or personal)
- Name of participant(s) (applicant, attorney or agent, examiner, other PTO personnel, etc.)
- An indication whether or not an exhibit was shown or a demonstration conducted
- An identification of the specific prior art discussed
- An indication whether an agreement was reached and if so, a description of the general nature of the agreement (may be by attachment of a copy of amendments or claims agreed as being allowable). Note: Agreement as to allowability is tentative and does not restrict further action by the examiner to the contrary.
- The signature of the examiner who conducted the interview (if Form is not an attachment to a signed Office action)

It is desirable that the examiner orally remind the applicant of his or her obligation to record the substance of the interview of each case. It should be noted, however, that the Interview Summary Form will not normally be considered a complete and proper recordation of the interview unless it includes, or is supplemented by the applicant or the examiner to include, all of the applicable items required below concerning the substance of the interview.

A complete and proper recordation of the substance of any interview should include at least the following applicable items:

- 1) A brief description of the nature of any exhibit shown or any demonstration conducted,
- 2) an identification of the claims discussed,
- 3) an identification of the specific prior art discussed,
- 4) an identification of the principal proposed amendments of a substantive nature discussed, unless these are already described on the Interview Summary Form completed by the Examiner,
- 5) a brief identification of the general thrust of the principal arguments presented to the examiner,
(The identification of arguments need not be lengthy or elaborate. A verbatim or highly detailed description of the arguments is not required. The identification of the arguments is sufficient if the general nature or thrust of the principal arguments made to the examiner can be understood in the context of the application file. Of course, the applicant may desire to emphasize and fully describe those arguments which he or she feels were or might be persuasive to the examiner.)
- 6) a general indication of any other pertinent matters discussed, and
- 7) if appropriate, the general results or outcome of the interview unless already described in the Interview Summary Form completed by the examiner.

Examiners are expected to carefully review the applicant's record of the substance of an interview. If the record is not complete and accurate, the examiner will give the applicant an extendable one month time period to correct the record.

Examiner to Check for Accuracy

If the claims are allowable for other reasons of record, the examiner should send a letter setting forth the examiner's version of the statement attributed to him or her. If the record is complete and accurate, the examiner should place the indication, "Interview Record OK" on the paper recording the substance of the interview along with the date and the examiner's initials.

Continuation of Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: Applicant's representative requested an interview to discuss the rejections and ways and means to distinguish the instant invention over the prior art of record. Regarding the rejection to claims 17 and 21, Applicant's representative does not believe Carrera teaches automatically moving a game piece on said game board a number of spaces based upon a random number generator for each of said names of said actual player listing or asking a random question in turn to a given player on said actual player listing as the game piece of said given player is moved to a predetermined location. The examiner explained the rejection does not rely on Carrera alone to teach these features; these features are taught to one having ordinary skill in the art when the references are taken as a whole. Regarding the rejection to claims 19 and 21, after a closer reading of Freda, III, the examiner agrees Freda, III does not teach a mystery position on a game board. Regarding the Ho et al. reference, although Ho does not explicitly disclose awarding a certificate for answering religious questions, Ho et al. teaches this feature because a student obtains a report/reward certificate for reaching educational milestones, which could be milestones in any type of educational subject, such as religion. Applicant's representative discussed the possibility of amending claim 17 to include language directed toward the different gaming categories displayed on the game board to possibly distinguish the instant invention over the prior art. In conclusion, full and fair consideration will be given to Applicant's timely submitted, official written response to the Office.

Applicant Initiated Interview Request Form

Application No.: 09/995,482 First Named Applicant: McKay, Michael J.
 Examiner: Jones, Scott E Art Unit: 3713 Status of Application: 1st OA on RCE
dt'd 9-7-04

Tentative Participants:

(1) TARRS P BENKO (2) _____
 (3) _____ (4) _____

Proposed Date of Interview: 11-9-04 Proposed Time: 11:00 (AM/PM)

Type of Interview Requested:

(1) ☒ Telephonic (2) ☐ Personal (3) ☐ Video Conference

Exhibit To Be Shown or Demonstrated: ☐ YES ☒ NO

If yes, provide brief description: _____

Issues To Be Discussed

Issues (Rej., Obj., etc)	Claims/ Fig. #s	Prior Art	Discussed	Agreed	Not Agreed
(1) <u>Rej - §103</u>	<u>17, 21</u>	<u>Carrera et al.</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(2) _____	<u>21, 19</u>	<u>Freda, III</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(3) _____	<u>20,</u>	<u>Ho et al.</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(4) _____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

☒ Continuation Sheet Attached

Brief Description of Arguments to be Presented:

See Attached

An interview was conducted on the above-identified application on 11-9-04.

NOTE:

This form should be completed by applicant and submitted to the examiner in advance of the interview (see MPEP § 713.01).

This application will not be delayed from issue because of applicant's failure to submit a written record of this interview. Therefore, applicant is advised to file a statement of the substance of this interview (37 CFR 1.133(b)) as soon as possible.

 (Applicant/Applicant's Representative Signature)

Scott E. Jones
 (Examiner/SPE Signature)

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.133. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 21 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of	§	
	§	
	§	
Michael J. McKay, et al	§	Attorney Docket: Leichtag-001C
	§	
Serial No.: 09/995,482	§	Examiner: Scott E. Jones
	§	
Filed: November 28, 2001	§	Art Unit: 3713
	§	
For: COMPUTER GAME PRODUCING	§	
AN AWARD CERTIFICATE AND	§	
A CONTEST MODE OF PLAY	§	

REQUEST FOR TELEPHONIC INTERVIEW

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
ATTN: Group 3713

Sir:

The following is a Brief Description of Arguments to be Presented which is being attached to USPTO form PTOL-413A (Applicant Initiated Interview Request Form).

35 USC §103(a) Rejection of Claims 17 and 21

U.S. Patent No. 4,273,337 to Carrera does not teach automatically moving a game piece on said game board a number of spaces based upon a random number generator for each of said names of said actual player listing or asking a random question in turn to a given player on said actual player listing as the game piece of said given player is moved to a predetermined location.

35 USC §103(a) Rejection of Claims 19 and 21

U.S. Patent No. 5,660,389 to Freda, III does not teach automatically and randomly

selecting mystery positions on said game board such that said mystery positions are not visible on said computer screen, or asking a plurality of random bonus questions when said respective player lands on said mystery position (Claim 19), or asking at least one random bonus question when each player lands on said mystery positions (Claim 21).

35 USC §103(a) Rejection of Claim 20

U.S. Patent No. 6,120,300 to Ho, et al does not teach providing that said random question tests said respective player's religious instruction or awarding said respective player with an attractive certificate.

For the Examiner's convenience, Applicants respectfully submit the current listing and status of claims.